

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4788

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3784

EXDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND ATHERTON FROM PICKERING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL \$10M GRANT MILITARY AID FOR JORDAN

1. I AM CONCERNED THAT THE ADDITIONAL \$10M IN GRANT WHICH WE TOLD GENERAL BIN SHAKER IN WASHINGTON WE WOULD FIND FOR JORDAN REMAINS UNATTENDED TO. AS YOU KNOW, SHAKER EXPECTS THIS FUNDING AND KING AND RIFAI ASSUME IT IS IN HAND. RECENTLY, DOD WHICH HAS PROGRAMMED IT IN THE COMPUTER, BUT NOT YET RELEASED THE FUNDS, HAS TOLD US THIS ISSUE STILL AWAITS A STATE DEPARTMENT DECISION.

2. SECTION 653 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, WHICH REQUIRES THAT ANY SHIFT OF TEN PERCENT IN FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER THE ACT BE NOTIFIED TO CONGRESS, MAY CAUSE US SOME PROBLEMS OR AT LEAST A DELAY IN THIS FUNDING. WHILE THE LAWYERS WILL HAVE TO WORK THIS OUT, THE \$10M IS MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF OUR GRANT PROGRAM, BUT LESS THAN TEN PERCENT OF OUR GRANT, CREDIT AND BUDGET SUPPORT PROGRAM COMBINED.

3. SINCE I HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER FOLLOWING OUR WASHINGTON VISIT ABOUT THIS QUESTION, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION WHICH YOUR STAFFS COULD
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SEND ME WHERE IT STANDS AND WHEN WE CAN EXPECT

DEPARTMENT WILL INSTRUCT DOD TO RELEASE THESE FUNDS
FOR JORDAN.

4. AT THE SAME TIME THERE IS STILL SOME QUESTION IN DOD
AS TO HOW THE NEW FUNDS WILL BE EXPENDED AND THIS HAS ALSO
NOT BEEN RESOLVED, NAMELY A \$4M CHARGE FOR SUPPLY
OPERATIONS WHICH THE JORDANIANS REFUSED TO ACCEPT. WE
ALSO HAVE SOME DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING THE BASIS FOR
THE \$4M CHARGE, SINCE WE THOUGHT PCH&T WAS ROUGHLY
TEN PERCENT OF \$59M GRANT MAP PROGRAM, OR \$6M RATHER
THAN A TOTAL \$10M (\$6M IN EARLY PROGRAM PLUS \$4M)
AS CLAIMED BY DOD. THIS ARBITRARY SUPPLY OPERATIONS
CHARGE THREATENS TO NEGATE VERY HELPFUL IMPACT OF
THE ADDITIONAL \$10M WHEN WE GET IT.
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